

T.E.A.C.H.

Dan Harrison

Christian
Education
Department

T.E.A.C.H.

What is T.E.A.C.H. all about? What do those letters communicate? The "T" is about training. Training teachers, pastors and key lay leaders, who can teach others. Our mission is to equip you to do a better job with the mission the Lord has entrusted to you.

The "E" deals with enriching the lives of those we have the privilege of ministering to. Jesus said that when relationship with him was fully experienced the outcome would be abundant life in this world and eternal life in the world to come. That is what I call real enrichment. Because of what the Lord is doing in and through us we are allowed to be his conduit of enrichment to others.

The "A" has to do with affirming success. When God works in a human heart life change is the inevitable result. When positive life change is taking place because of obedience to Christ it needs to be affirmed. We all understand that the affirmation first goes to God but the person who is allowing God to work needs to be encouraged and affirmed as

well. The devil will always be present to tear people down so we need to join the Lord in being present to build them up.

The "C" stands for challenging to excellence. Anything that is done for the Lord needs to be done with excellence. Vince Lombardi said, *"The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence."* The quality of everything that we do for the Lord should reflect our total commitment to doing it to the very best of our ability. Nothing less than our best will be good enough for Him.

The "H" stands for heading into growth. Our God takes great delight in producing life, growth and health. Positive, hope-filled, confident leaders have to catch a vision from God and lead the way to making that vision a reality. For the vision to become reality people need to be reminded over and over again, *"We can do what God is calling us to do!"*

Because God is in the business of redeeming the world to Himself the odds are always stacked in our favor, whether we realize it or not. The people the Lord has entrusted to your leadership can do

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Developing Leaders in Your Church
by Bill Benner

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more than most of them think but they need you to believe in them and challenge them.

Before they will follow you they must to trust you. To earn their trust you must prove to them over and over that you love them and only want what is in their best interests. Loving them in tangible ways might mean visiting them if they are hospitalized, being there for them in their tragedies, going to the ball games of their children and grandchildren, writing them affirmation notes, etc. If they trust you they will follow your leadership but it won't happen just because you have a leadership position or title.

T.E.A.C.H. = Training People, Enriching Lives, Affirming Success, Challenging to Excellence, and Heading into Growth. This is a formula that will produce results when we are faithful to it. May God Bless you richly as you T. E.A.C.H. for his glory.



A LESSON FROM AN ANT
Josh and Karen Zarandona

Brenda was a young woman that wanted to learn rock climbing. Although she was scared, she went with a group and they faced a tremendous cliff of rock. Practically perpendicular. In spite of her fear, she put on the gear; she took a hold of the rope and she started climb.



She got to a ledge where she could take a breather. As she was hanging on there, whoever was holding the rope at the top of the cliff made a mistake and snapped the rope against Brenda's eye and knocked out her contact lens.

Contact lenses are very small and almost impossible to find. She found herself, on the rock ledge, with many hundreds of feet below and hundreds of feet above her. She looked, hoping she would be able to find the small contact lens. She was very upset by the fact she wouldn't be anywhere near a place where she could get a new contact lens. She prayed that the Lord would help her to find it.

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Have you ever thought about what it takes for your church to be effectively accomplishing the different ministries that it is involved in week-to-week; the outreach, the worship, the teaching? It takes people, people who are willing to take a leap of faith and step into positions of leadership. It takes people who are willing to get involved. We need people to serve in order for ministry to effectively touch lives. And Christians need to serve in order for their spiritual lives to thrive. Ephesians 2:10 says, "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

So, where are these people, these "leaders" that your church so desperately needs. Often there are people right in our congregations that exert leadership gifts in the work place or in social areas of the community. But when it comes to church, they often feel incapable or spiritually inadequate, so take a "back pew" in involvement. One of our tasks as pastors and spiritual leaders in the church is to identify these gifts in the church.

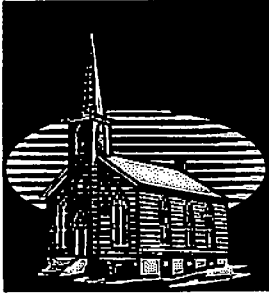
The Christian Education Department has several programs that can help you do this. Two of them, "Joshua's Men" and "Mentoring Women," are leadership courses designed for developing men and women with leadership gifts. The goal of both of these programs is to have men and women commit one year to the development of their leadership potential and Christian character formation.

I would tell you up front that neither of these programs are a "quick fix". Neither are they for new Christians. Both require a year commitment to once a month meetings, a book to be read each month, and commitment to the group. But what you get in return is well worth the effort. Each month there is a different focus on an area of concern for the growing Christian, areas such as *Leadership, Spiritual Disciplines, People Skills, Men's or Women's Issues, Evangelism, Marriage, Parenting and Ministry*. As your group goes through the books, lessons and times of sharing I have found that they grow both in their understanding of what God wants to do in them as believers and also in their responsibility to others as a follower of Christ. If you are serious about growing Christian leaders for service, be sure to check these two programs out .

If you are interested in learning more about either of these programs, please contact Karen Hughes at the Christian Education Office at 937-695-0655 or via email at cedept@dragonbbs.com.

Sunday School by Mike Grable

I recall many years ago, being a part of a Sunday School class for primary age boys. It was not a large class, just a few of us as students. I really do not recall anything special as far as what we were taught in that class, but I do remember that our teacher possessed a true love for God and a genuine concern for those



he taught and he was willing take on the assignment of teaching that class of boys. There was one special thing the teacher did for the class. Every so often, the teacher would measure the height of every student in the class. He would have each student stand up against the door jamb and draw a line to show how much they had grown since the last time they were measured. Many lines marked that door

jamb as each student was able to track his growth. And I am sure that the desire of every student was they would show that they had grown since the last time they stood against that jamb, and were continuing to grow.

In Matthew 16, Jesus told his disciples, *"I will build my church."* We believe that God's desire is that His children and His churches should grow. It is not always an easy task. There is an adversary who makes it his business to try and discourage, thwart, and frustrate God's work—growth—in any way possible. God, however has promised that He would build His church. The beauty of that promise includes the fact that God has designed that we are to be the building blocks He used to build His church. In Ephesians 2, Paul wrote about God's pattern for growth. *"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit,"* (Ephesians 2.19-22, NIV). What a great possibility that God is willing to take you and I and make us a temple in which God lives!

There are the *possibilities of growth*. Usually excitement and enthusiasm accompany growth. Excitement can fill a church when the people see new faces in their services. Enthusiasm can infiltrate the congregation when they realize that as a church they are growing in their faith and their commitment and their resolve to the Lord. Excitement can fill the heart of an individual when that person realizes they are growing in their walk with the Lord. Just as students in that Sunday School class had a desire to grow, we, as God's children, should have a desire to grow in Him. Although the scriptures do not tell us, I wonder how the disciples felt when they heard Jesus say that He would build His church? I cannot help but think that they were excited at what

would be the result of God building His church and they being part of that growth. But it would take personal growth on their part to see it done. *There is the preparation for growth.* What am I doing to accomplish growth in my life and in the life of my Sunday School and church? What kind of building material am I offering to God? In 1 Corinthians, Paul again used the analogy of building God's church. As Paul writes, he reinforces the fact that there is only one foundation that we are to build upon and that is Jesus Christ. But he also admonishes us to be careful how we build. In these verses, Paul talks about the various qualities of possible building materials. He talks about using, *"gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or straw."* there is a great deal of difference in those materials. It is very obvious which materials out to be selected in God's build process. Am I giving the best of my life, the best I have to offer to God, so that He may take what I offer and bring growth as a result?



ADOPT A CHURCH

The Christian Education Department is providing an opportunity for our local churches to participate in a project to help the churches in the West Indies District by providing supplies that we in the United States have taken for granted. They are in desperate need of curriculum and supplies.



We are asking that your Sunday school teachers save their Sunday School curriculum

for a quarter to send to a needy church in the West Indies. Some of the basic needs are: Bibles, children's Bible story books, Sunday school curriculum (the extra unused) for each basic level—preschool, elementary, teens and adults. Also, crayons, permanent markers, typing paper and notebook paper, construction paper, possibly stickers or other fun things for the children.

Please pack the supplies in a sturdy box to the address of the church that you are going to send it to. We ask that you either contact Ele Thompson, at (740)-775-9442 or Karen Hughes at (937)-695-0655.

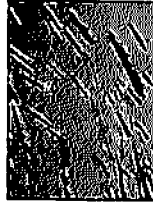
The following is a list of churches on each island with some that have already been adopted by churches. Please pick a church that has not already been assigned and let either Ele or Karen know so we can mark it on our "Master List."

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A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS RETREAT 2004

from Dick Perkins SCD committee



The General Christian Education Board had a vision. That vision was for a Superintendents Retreat to be established this year. *A Breath of Fresh Air—A Retreat for Sunday School Superintendents* came to life on April 30th and May 1st, the over night retreat had a total attendance of 23 Superintendents and Pastors from our denomination and guests from the Church of the Nazarene.

We gathered at the Holiday Inn West in Columbus, Ohio on Friday evening for food and fellowship and experienced a great prayer time lead by a our CE Chairman, Dan Harrison and the retreat speaker, Rev. Mike Percell. Rev. Percell came to us from Jackson, Ohio where he pastors the Jackson Church of the Nazarene and he also is a Coach for New Church Specialties. The topic for the opening session on Friday evening was *Falling in Love with the Church and Sunday School*. Good insight was given and again, a great dialog and prayer time was experienced. Saturday morning opened with a continental breakfast and the second retreat session titled *Recapturing the Vision and Reason for Sunday School*. The morning flew quickly. This was a great opportunity to reflect on Christian Education and the privilege we have to work in building His kingdom. There are always new ideas to ponder on and different ways to accomplish the same common goal. Sometimes we must think out of the box, at times it works for us and other times it doesn't—but at least an attempt was made to make a difference—that is better than no attempt being made at all.

The new church year brings opportunities for new ministry concepts, establishing new goals for our Christian Education departments and to work on our Superintendents Retreat for next year; look for information to come your way. Mark your calendars and plan to attend, God may have a new concept or plan waiting for YOU...

A Lesson From An Ant, continued from page 2

The lens was could not be found. As she sat down waiting for the rest of the party to meet her at the top of the mountain she had time to pray.

She looked out across the range of mountains, thinking of the Bible verse that says, "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth." She prayed "Lord, You can see all these mountains. You know every single stone and leaf that's on those mountains and You know exactly where

my contact lens is.

The time came when it was time to head back down the mountain. They walked down the trail to the bottom and just as they got there, a new party of rock climbers was coming along. As one of them started up the face of the cliff, she shouted out, "Hey, did anyone lose a contact lens?"

That would be startling enough that she found the contact lens. But what was also amazing was she found an ant carrying that contact lens on the face of that rock!

What does that tell you about the God of the universe? He is in charge of the smallest of things. Do ants matter to Him? Of course they do. He made them. He designed them.

If God is in charge of the ants, there is no doubt that He cares about you and me!



A Teacher's Prayer

I want to teach my students how
To live this life on Earth.
To face it's struggles and it's strife
And to improve their worth.
Not just the lesson in a book
Or how the rivers flow, But how to choose the proper
path
Wherever they may go.
To understand eternal truth
And know the right from wrong,
And gather all the beauty of
A flower and a song.
For if I help the world to grow
In wisdom and in grace,
Then I shall feel that I have won
And I have filled my place.
And so I ask your guidance God,
That I may do my part.
For character and confidence
And happiness of heart.

James J. Metcalf

CE Convention for the Caribbean

Ruthine Joseph (from the West Indies District) and I had talked about having a C.E. Convention on Dominica. Then we planned and talked some more. Soon it became a reality! Feb. 21, 22, 2003 was the date. So I planned and worked and prepared handouts, and purchased things to take down with me. God blessed me with a traveling companion, Barb, which in turn blessed me with an extra suitcase to fill with supplies, handouts, and teaching materials.



Excitement was in the air! The West Indies District was having their first C.E. Convention! We met at the Newtown Church, with a full house! The plans were for a time of worship, encouragement, and instruction on Friday evening as one group. My part on Friday evening was that of instruction. I spoke for about 50 minutes on "How to form a lesson plan when teaching right out of the Bible." The excitement and response was awesome. It is so exuberating to teach to a crowd of people who are giving you their undivided attention!

On Saturday there were two tracks. The pastors and Sunday School Superintendents met upstairs with Dan Harrison while I taught the Sunday School teachers in the sanctuary. My big mistake was to estimate that I needed 45 handouts for each seminar. By noon, I had 150 people in the sanctuary! They were eager to learn, listen, take notes, and ask for materials to help them in their Sunday School classes.

I covered the following topics: Bible Memorization, Creative Teaching Ideas, The Ten Commandments, and The Basic Learning Styles. After each seminar I was literally surrounded by teachers wanting to talk. It was wonderful!

Barb and I gave a few supplies to ten different churches (financed partly by Beulah Chapel's ladies group). We had worked for weeks on tracing and coloring sets of the 10 commandments posters. We drew out churches names and gave away 12 sets. During the memorization seminar, I grouped the teachers in groups of about 10 and had them play games as we memorized a Scripture. That was fun! They also gave me some ideas to bring home with me. The sock puppets were wanted by all, but only one lady was the recipient. Perhaps another time, we can have a "make it—take it" seminar and let everyone make a sock puppet.

Many teachers asked for materials and curriculum to help them in their teaching task. Hopefully this need will be met, as we launch an "Adopt a Church" project from the C.E. Board.

Overall, the convention was one of excitement and learning. It was a privilege to meet new brothers and sisters from the islands, and minister to them, and to aid them in their local church ministries.

Yes, our flights were canceled and we had to re-schedule to a different airlines and a different airport. Yes, our luggage was too heavy to carry. Yes, our luggage did not arrive on time. Yes, I got carsick driving across the island. Yes, I got sick, sick as I was leaving the island, but if God opened the door, I'd do it again!

Adopt a Church continued from page 3

ANTIGUA

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Clare Hall CUC | Maysville, Ky |
| 2. Golden Grove CUC | Available |
| 3. Pigotts CUC | Bainbridge CCCU |
| 4. Willikies CUC | Miller Evang. Christian |
| 5. Freemansville CCCU | Peabody CCCU |

For more specifics of what the churches on Antigua might need, please contact Joseph Jacob, Golden Grove, Antigua, West Indies (268)461-0596

BARBADOS

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Bush Hall CUC | Westland, MI CCCU |
| 2. Hindsbury Rd. CUC | East Columbus Church |
| 3. Mt. Friendship CUC | Greenfield CCCU |

For more specifics of what the churches in Barbados might need, contact George Herbert, 1st Ave. Harmony Hall, Hindsbury Rd., Barbados

DOMINICA

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Calibishie CUC | Church of the Good Shepard |
| 2. Castle Bruce CUC | Beulah Chapel |
| 3. Giraudel CUC | Available |
| 4. Goodwill CUC | Available |
| 5. Laplaine CUC | Sunnyside Chapel |
| 6. Layou CUC | Crossroads Church |
| 7. Marigot CUC | Available |
| 8. Massacre CUC | Available |
| 9. Morne Prosper CUC | Available |
| 10. Newton CUC | Wesleyan Church, Chillicothe |
| 11. Portsmouth CUC | Available |
| 12. Roseau CUC | Bonds Chapel |
| 13. Sineku CUC | Available |
| 14. Soufrier CUC | Wesleyan Church |
| 15. Wesley CUC | Available |
| 16. Woodfordhill | Available |

Please contact Ruthine Joseph about what the Dominican church might need. Her address is P.O. Box 330, Roseau, Commonwelath of Dominica and her email is ruthinej@hotmail.

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Christian Education Department

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Adopt a Church, continued

ST. CROIX New Life, Richmond Dale CCCU

Contact Mark Lewis, email: mark.lewis@wgm.org, P.O.
1690, Kingshill, St. Croix, U.S. V.I. 00851

TRINIDAD

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Lanse Mitan CUC | Available |
| 2. Laventille CUC | Available |
| 3. Point Fortin | Winchester CCCU |
| 4. St. James, CUC | Gallapois |

For more specifics for the Trinidad churches, please contact
Roger Hyland, 18 Jerry St., St. James, Trinidad.

The amount of materials you send is really up to you. You
may choose to make this care package a "one time" project.
The Lord may even lay it on your heart to send them your
used curriculum once a year! They are in desperate need
for these supplies.

Also, they are starting up a lending library there all so, so if
your church can donate books or stories it will be greatly
appreciated!

2004 Christian Education Convention

presents:

"A NEW DAY DAWNING"

DATE: Saturday, September 18, 2004

**LOCATION: Crossroads Church in
Circleville, Ohio**

TIME: 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

**More information will be available at a later
date.**